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METAL REGION FOR REDUCTION OF CAPACITIVE COUPLING
BETWEEN SIGNAL LINES

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ABSTRACT

10 A structure includes a substrate, first and second
signal lines above the substrate, where unused
substrate surface area exists between the first and
second signal lines, and a first shield line in the
unused substrate surface area. To define the first
shield line, the signal line layout which includes the
15 first and second signal lines is defined. Any areas
which are not signal lines are then defined as unused
areas of the substrate. The shield lines including the
first shield line are then defined in portions of the
unused areas of the substrate. In this manner, shield
20 lines are automatically designed at every available
location without requiring any allocation of substrate
surface area.